



# LONG TERM CARE

## NEWSLETTER

Indiana State Department of Health

**ISDH Long Term Care  
Newsletter Issue # 08-23  
September 6, 2008**

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### Announcement of CMS LTC Branch Manager

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Midwest Consortium for Survey and Certification announced the appointment of Ellen Greif as the Long Term Care Certification and Enforcement Branch Manager in the Chicago Region V Office. Ellen takes over on September 14, 2008.

### CMS Pressure Ulcer Summit

On September 3 and 4, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Midwest Consortium held a summit in Kansas City to discuss goals for reducing pressure ulcers in health care facilities. The summit was titled *Leading the Path to Collaboration: Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Care*. Attending the summit from Indiana were representatives of the Indiana State Department of Health, Health Care Excel, Hoosier Owners and Providers for the Elderly (HOPE), Indiana Association of Homes and Services for the Aged (IAHSA), and Indiana Health Care Association (IHCA). The summit included state survey directors, state ombudsman, state quality improvement organizations, and provider association representatives from long term care, hospital, and home health.

The participants discussed potential approaches and practices to prevent pressure ulcers and focused on the development of stakeholder collaborations. Participants from each state met with a CMS representative to discuss specific approaches for that state.

Indiana participants provided the Consortium with information on the Indiana Health Care Quality Initiative and the current pressure ulcer reduction campaign. The Indiana pressure ulcer initiative will include 100 nursing homes, 50 hospitals, and 50 home health agencies. The initiative will follow the New Jersey model in implementing collaborative pressure ulcer reduction programs focusing on assessment, care coordination, and consistent assignments.

## Indiana Medical Error Report for 2007

On August 25, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) released the annual report of the Medical Error Reporting System. The Medical Error Report for 2007 includes reported events for calendar year 2007. The report is designed to provide reliable data on medical errors and improve patient safety. The report is based on the 27 consensus standards developed by the National Quality Forum. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, abortion clinics, and birthing centers are required to report events occurring in their facility. A long term care facility that is included under a hospital license would be included in the reporting for that hospital.

According to the data, 105 medical errors were reported for 2007 with 101 events occurring at hospitals and 4 events occurring at ambulatory surgery centers. According to the 2007 report, 27 of the 105 reported events were stage 3 or 4 pressure ulcers acquired after admission to the facility. Other top reported events include 24 events of retention of a foreign object in a patient after surgery and 23 events of surgery performed on the wrong body part.

"The Medical Error Reporting System is a valuable tool to help improve patient safety," said State Health Commissioner Judy Monroe, M.D. "The data we get from this report will help reduce the frequency of medical errors by promoting awareness of patient safety, revealing causes of medical errors, and identifying statewide trends."

The Medical Error Report for 2007 is available on the Indiana State Department of Health Web site at: [www.statehealth.IN.gov](http://www.statehealth.IN.gov) by clicking on "Medical Errors Reporting System."

## ISDH Leadership Conference on Emergency Preparedness Planning

Registration is now open for the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Long Term Care Leadership Conference September 23, 2008 in Indianapolis. The Conference is on Emergency Preparedness Planning and will focus on how to develop a workable all hazards emergency plan. The Conference is scheduled from 8:30 to 4:00 at the Indiana Convention Center. The Conference [brochure](#) provides the complete agenda for the day.

This year has proven that disasters can happen in Indiana. Within a month, Indiana experienced an earthquake, severe tornadoes, and massive flooding. The flooding directly impacted 23 health care facilities and indirectly impacted over 25 health care facilities. As part of the conference, representatives from several long term care facilities will be on hand to discuss their experiences in the recent flooding. We hope that this Conference will provide tools and resources needed to improve your all hazards emergency plan.

### **Conference Location**

Sagamore Ballroom  
Indiana Convention Center  
100 South Capitol Avenue  
Indianapolis, IN 46225

<http://www.iccrd.com/conv/index.aspx>

### **To Register Online**

[www.in.gov/isdh/23260.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/23260.htm)

**To Obtain Registration Form for Fax/Mail**

[Registration Form](#)

**Questions**

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World Alzheimer's Day - Friday, September 19, 2008

alzheimer's  association®

**WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY**



**We need your  
VOICE!**

**Join us on Friday,  
September 19th on  
Monument Circle in  
Indianapolis!**

The goal of World Alzheimer's Day is to encourage others to take action, learn about the disease, and become involved in the fight by becoming an Alzheimer's Advocate. Join us and be the VOICE of your neighbors, friends and family who have been touched by Alzheimer's.

Join us on Monument Circle from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for an event that will include lunch and information regarding Alzheimer's disease.

For additional information call 800-272-3900 or visit [www.alz.org/indiana](http://www.alz.org/indiana).

That is all for this week.

Terry Whitson  
Assistant Commissioner  
Indiana State Department of Health